



Air and Waste Matters

DNREC Office of Environmental Protection

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\$5.5 Million Awarded in Universal Recycling Program

Universal Recycling – you know it's a convenient and beneficial service for every resident and business in Delaware – but did you know it also requires new investment in capital equipment and related costs?

DNREC and the Recycling Public Advisory Council recently approved 26 grants and one loan toward those costs for waste haulers and other entities in the **Universal Recycling Grant and Low Interest Loan Program**.

The approximately \$5.5 million in grant

and loan offerings to applicants were approved for start-up costs under Delaware's new solid waste recycling law, known as Universal Recycling, signed by Governor Jack Markell last June.

The law was structured to reduce and divert waste from landfills through increased recycling statewide and is expected to stimulate new business opportunities, markets and jobs.

The approved projects include recycling infrastructure that would serve

(Continued on page 2)



Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) recycling bins stand ready for collection.

New Recycling Grant and Loan Program *Continued...*

approximately 100,000 households and businesses **and divert approximately 30,000 tons of recyclables per year.** The funding will result in more than 86,000 recycling carts, hundreds of recycling dumpsters, trucks, other related equipment, and outreach and education.

Implementation of the first phase of the universal recycling system requires waste haulers and other entities to provide single-stream recycling collection services – along with a recycling container – to every single family residential customer and to bars and restaurants that provide on-premise sales of applicable beverages by September 15, 2011.

Some communities and companies are already providing recycling services and some will provide the service as early as April.

Applicants for the universal recycling grant and loan program included **14 municipalities, 11 private waste haulers and 10 other entities.** Contracts are expected to be extended to the approved grant and loan applicants by early April.

The Department may offer similar grant and loan opportunities next year and will announce any new opportunities to the public in advance, as well as on DNREC's website:

www.awm.delaware.gov/Pages/RecyclingGrants.aspx.

*Article by M. Carl, DNREC PA and
S. Splittorff, SHWMB*

Some communities and companies like DSWA are already providing curbside recycling services.

The selected applicants are:

- Town of Bethany Beach
- City of Delaware City
- City of Dover
- Town of Elsmere
- Town of Fenwick Island
- Town of Georgetown
- City of Harrington
- City of Lewes
- Town of Middletown
- City of New Castle
- City of Newark
- City of Rehoboth Beach
- Town of Smyrna
- City of Wilmington
- Delaware Sanitation
- Diamond State Disposal
- Econo Haul
- First State Disposal
- Hockessin Sanitation
- Jay D C Enterprises
- KRC Waste Management
- Moor Disposal
- MT Trash
- O'Fig Sanitation
- Palmatary's Sanitation
- Delaware Restaurant Association
- Blue Hen Organics



Smyrna's New Truck Stop Electrification Project

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Grant funds truck stop electrification project at the Route 1 Smyrna Rest Area.

Long distance truck drivers will be pleasantly surprised to see that the truck parking lot at the Smyrna Rest Area has a whole new look and function. The project was just completed as an ARRA, or Stimulus Act, funded improvement in Delaware.



Twenty-four spaces now provide heating and air conditioning, as well as internet service to truckers, who no longer have to idle their engines for this comfort service during their rest period.

This is known as a truck stop electrification facility. The cost of the project was \$547,530 and was entirely paid for by the ARRA grant. Fifteen jobs were either created or preserved, which included planning, engineering and construction.

The project will also reduce toxic diesel emissions. Assuming seven trucks (28% of spaces filled) use the electrified spaces for 10 hours per day, 25,550 gallons of diesel fuel will be saved each year. That also means 284 tons of carbon dioxide, a greenhouse gas, will be taken out the atmosphere each year as well.

Based on the **US EPA's "Smartway" emissions calculator**, there are also annual reductions of 15 tons of nitrogen oxides and 0.60 tons of hydrocarbons, which are smog causing pollutants; 0.30 tons of fine particulate matter; and three tons of carbon monoxide.

The facility will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week on an automated system that a trucker will use with his/her credit card to gain access to the service. In addition, noise and vibration will substantially be reduced in the parking lot, giving the users a better night's rest.

The cost per hour will stay below the per gallon price of diesel fuel, which is what most big rigs burn while idling for an hour. This provides a financial incentive not to idle the engine to keep warm or run their A/C systems.

Another incentive may be **Air Regulation 1145-Excessive Idling of Heavy Duty Vehicles**, which prohibits heavy duty vehicles from engine idling for more than three minutes. Regulation 1145 will be enforced by DNREC's Environmental Protection Officers, who plan to patrol the rest area for violators.

For more information on air quality and Regulation 1145, visit: <http://www.awm.delaware.gov/Info/Pages/TruckAntidling.aspx>.

Article by P. Wheeler, DAQ

Building Happiness with Habitat for Humanity of NCC

For most Wilmington residents, it's just another construction site in the **Brandywine Village** area, but for the prospective new home owners, it is happiness itself. It is also a Brownfields site, the cleanup of which has been carefully overseen by DNREC's Site Investigation and Restoration Branch (SIRB).

The new **Mill Stone Townhomes** site is located at 97 Vandever Ave. Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County is redeveloping the property into 21 affordable housing units for the community. But before the property can be used for new homes, the contamination at the site must be addressed.

The site had a varied historical past, and many of the site operations may have included hazardous substances. It was a cotton mill, a textile manufacturing facility, a tobacco company, a phonograph company, a dry cleaner/laundry

service, an auto body shop, and most recently, used by Moyer Academy as an elementary school with modular buildings. As the site is paved, it did not posed a risk to the students.

The site surface soils were impacted by chlorinated solvents and by polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The contamination may have resulted from the dry cleaner/laundry service that was located in the northeast portion of the site, and from historic filling of the property on the adjacent property.

In groundwater, tetrachloroethane (PCE), vinyl chloride, 1,1-dichloroethene, and manganese were detected above DNREC standards. However, groundwater is not being used at the site. The site is located within the City of Wilmington's groundwater management zone (GMZ), which restricts its use.

(Continued on page 5)



DNREC Secretary Collin O'Mara (center) attends the groundbreaking ceremonies for Mill Stone Townhomes.

Building Happiness *Continued...*



Habitat for Humanity workers build the scaffolding for the groundbreaking ceremonies at the site.

the impacted soil in the immediate vicinity of the contaminated area will be excavated to approximately two feet below ground surface and properly disposed. If contamination is noted below two feet, further excavation may be required.

After construction, a Long Term Stewardship Plan will be submitted for DNREC approval, which will include vapor intrusion monitoring, groundwater sampling and annual inspections of the cap.

A site evaluation was performed for potential vapor intrusion, which showed that the vapors from both the groundwater and soils may pose an unacceptable risk to the future residents. Therefore, a vapor barrier system will be installed under the building slabs or in the crawlspaces to prevent the migration of site soil gas into the residences.

In addition, several tons of PAH-contaminated soils were excavated from a 430-square foot area as an interim remedial action.

DNREC's clean-up plans also include the installation of a cap and cover system made up of either two feet of DNREC-approved clean fill, or an impervious surface to minimize exposure to site surface soils.

During redevelopment of the site,

For more information on DNREC's Brownfields Development Program, please visit:

<http://www.awm.delaware.gov/SIRB/Pages/Brownfields.aspx>.

Photos and Article by M. Price, SIRB



An architectural rendering of the new Mill Stone Townhomes.

Rx Drugs, Mercury Thermometers and Other Hazardous Waste Disposal

If your spring cleaning this year includes your medicine cabinet, basement, or garage, you may encounter expired prescription drugs, old thermometers, oil-based paints, pesticides or other hazardous substances and wastes. This spring, the following programs are available to help residents properly dispose of these hazardous substances and wastes:

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day — April 30, 2011



The US Department of Justice-Drug Enforcement Administration-Office of Diversion Control is hosting a second National Prescription Drug

Take Back Day. It will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2011 from 10 AM to 2 PM at a number of locations in Delaware. For more information on the National Take-Back Initiative and locations near your area, please visit:

http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html.

Mercury Thermometer Return/Exchange Event — May 20, 2011

The Mercury Thermometer Return/Exchange Event will be held on Friday, May 20, 2011 from 10 AM to 2 PM. There will be two drop-off locations:

- Christiana Hospital (Parking Lot T), and
- Bayhealth Kent General Hospital (Human Resources Building Parking Lot).

Delaware residents may bring mercury thermometers to the event to ensure proper dis-



posal and **receive a new digital thermometer for free**, while supplies last. Residents are asked to wrap the thermometers in paper towels or a Ziploc bag and place them in a plastic container before dropping them off.

The event is being sponsored by the Delaware Nurses Association, in conjunction with the Division of Public Health Healthy Homes Initiative, Christiana Care Health System, Bayhealth Medical Center, and Precision Air-Convey. For more information on mercury, mercury thermometers, or what to do in case of a mercury spill, please call 1-800-464-HELP or visit:

www.DelawareHealthyHomes.org.

Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) Household Hazardous Waste Pilot Program — Every Friday March 4 - Nov. 25, 2011

DSWA and Clean Harbors have partnered in a pilot program to collect household hazardous waste from Delaware residents every Friday from March 4 through November 25, 2011.



The events will take place at the Cheswold Transfer Station from 8 AM to 2 PM, rain or shine. DSWA defines household hazardous waste as items such as household cleaners, garden pesticides, oil-based paints only (no latex paint will be accepted), nail polish, fluorescent bulbs, or antifreeze. DSWA will **not** be able to accept any ammunition, prescription medication or sharps (needles).

This event is restricted to Delaware residents; no commercial services will be accepted. For more information about the types of acceptable waste or directions, please contact DSWA at 1.800.404.7080 or visit:

www.dswa.com.

Article by M. Ferree, SHWMB
Photos from Wikimedia Commons

Who's New at the ECU?

Officer Timothy Hamlett of Milton, pictured at the right with former Environmental Crimes Unit (ECU) Chief William "Chip" McDaniel and DNREC Secretary Collin O'Mara, was sworn in last November, as the newest member of DNREC's ECU.

Hamlett is a graduate of the Delaware State Police Academy who spent five years with the Milton Police Department, reaching the rank of corporal. He began his new job with the ECU's northern office in the middle of November last year, and learned firsthand about the wintry weather that comes early to New Castle County.

However, Officer Hamlett will not remain the new guy for long; **Tyler Austin** was hired January 2011 to become an Environmental Protection Officer for DNREC's ECU. He is attending the Delaware State Police Academy in April this year. Prior to being hired by DNREC, Tyler was employed by the Delaware Department of Correction (DOC), where he



served as a Correctional Officer at the Howard R. Young Correctional Institution in Wilmington for two years. In addition, Tyler has also been a volunteer firefighter for eight years and was a captain for his fire department.

*Photo and Article by J. Wilson, DNREC PA
M. Chamberlain, ECU*

Got Brownfields? Meet the New EDFP, ASAP!



If you are looking for Brownfields grant funding for a new project, you will want to meet Melissa Leckie, of DNREC's Site Investigation and Restoration Branch (SIRB), right away.

Recently certified as an **Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP)** from the National Development Council (NDC), Ms. Leckie has the knowledge and ability to make redevelopment deals happen.

EDFP certification is a professional credential given to individuals who successfully complete

NDC's intensive economic development finance training series. The rigorous training gives her essential skills for the successful practice of economic development-business credit, as well as real estate finance analysis techniques. She is also an expert on loan-packaging procedures, negotiations and problem-solving and deal-structuring techniques.

Ms. Leckie's EDFP certification builds SIRB's capacity to translate redevelopment opportunities into results for communities. You can reach Ms. Leckie at DNREC-SIRB:

**391 Lukens Drive
New Castle, DE 19720
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Fax: 302.395.2601**

E-mail: Melissa.Leckie@state.de.us

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We're on the web!
www.awm.delaware.gov

Visit the Site

Investigation and
Restoration Branch
Brownfields Website
at:

[http://
www.awm.delaware.gov
v/SIRB/Pages/
Brownfields.aspx](http://www.awm.delaware.gov/v/SIRB/Pages/Brownfields.aspx)
for more Brownfields
information.



The Division of Waste and Hazardous Substances includes the following sections and responsibilities:

- **Emergency Prevention and Response Branch** — preventing industrial accidents, assuring emergency planning and community right-to-know, and responding to environmental emergencies.
- **Site Investigation and Restoration Branch** — remediation of sites contaminated by hazardous substances (Superfund/Brownfields/Voluntary Cleanup Programs).
- **Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Branch** — reuse, recycling, transport and disposal of solid and hazardous waste.
- **Tank Management Branch** — maintenance and installation of underground and above ground storage tanks & overseeing cleanup of tanks which may leak.

EASY REFERENCE PHONE NUMBERS

24-Hour Report and Spill Notification Line - 1-800-662-8802
Aboveground Storage Tanks - 302-395-2500
Air Quality - Dover Office - 302-739-9402
- New Castle Office - 302-323-4542
Asbestos - New Castle - 302-323-4542
- Kent & Sussex - 302-739-9402
Boiler Safety - 302-744-2735
Brownfields - 302-395-2600
Emergency Prevention and Response - 302-739-9404
Environmental Crimes Unit - 302-739-9401 or 1-800-662-8802
Hazardous Waste - 302-739-9403
Medical Waste - 302-739-9403
Open Burning - 302-739-9402
Outreach Ombudsman - 302-395-2515
Recycling - 302-739-9403
Site Investigation & Restoration Branch (Superfund/Brownfields) - 302-395-2600
Small Business Ombudsman - 302-739-9909
Solid Waste - 302-739-9403
Underground Storage Tanks - 302-395-2500

DID YOU KNOW?

The 5th DNREC-sponsored Scrap Tire Drop-off Day, held last October at the Delaware State Fairgrounds, netted 31.5 tons of scrap tires – **more than 2,500 old passenger vehicle tires** that could have ended up in an unsightly, mosquito-infested pile or left to take up valuable landfill space. This event brought the total number of old tires collected throughout the State to nearly 10,000 since the program staged the first drop-off day two years ago. **For more information** on the program and future scrap tire drop-off events, please visit: www.awm.delaware.gov/Info/Pages/ScrapTire.aspx or call 302-739-9403.

DNREC Press Release 10/27/10